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NPIC/R-1184/64

April 1964

PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT

EVALUATION OF REPORTED MILITARY ACTIVITY, CHANTREA AREA, CAMBODIA

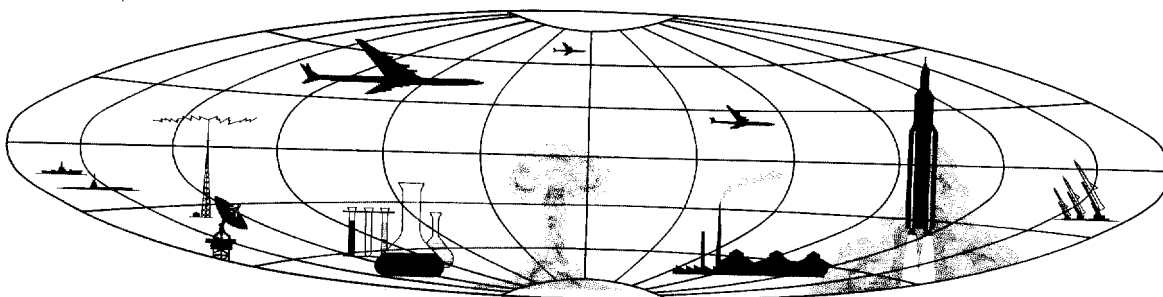


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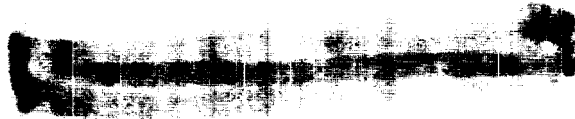
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GROUP 1
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[illegible]

FIGURE 1. LOCATION MAP.

SUMMARY

This report, prepared at the request of the Department of State, represents an NPIC evaluation of a reported military area in Cambodia, adjacent to the South Vietnam border and in the vicinity of UTM coordinates [REDACTED] 1/. A location map is provided in Figure 1. The area, located 5 nm SSE of Chantrea, Cambodia (10-52N 106-04E), is generally flat, marshy land, and is predominantly agricultural.

All coordinates and the border delineation have been derived from AMS Series L509, sheet NC 48-7, scale: 1:250,000.

The 13th Reconnaissance Technical Squadron (RTS) report referenced above refers to nine possible installations. Each of these is commented on in the body of this report.

COMPARATIVE EVALUATION

1. Area 1 (See Figure 2), reported as a probable command post/headquarters 1/, is a major local farming development as evidenced by a pattern of continued cultivation during the period of photographic coverage [REDACTED]

The referenced report lists one possible bunker located in the center of the area, 3 revetted storage buildings, 2 possible storage areas containing a total of 3 buildings and 2 support buildings, a barrier of approximately 35 foxholes, approximately 15 AW emplacements, a sawtooth trench and numerous dispersed foxholes.

area shows that those areas of established local farming development have this windbreak pattern. Similar orderly rows of holes can be observed in several of the areas depicted in the referenced report. The sawtooth trench appears to be partially obscured by vegetation. The vegetation and the absence of track activity in the vicinity indicate that the trench is probably little used.

2. Area 2 (See Figure 3) was reported as a possible munitions storage area containing 10 dispersed storage bunkers interconnected by a canal system. A central probable control point comprises 2 main buildings, several support buildings, 14 AW emplacements, 2 sawtooth trenches (one forming a triangle) and numerous scattered foxholes.

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The entire area is typical of the agricultural development observed throughout this marshy area.

3. Area 3 (See Figure 4) reported as a possible munitions storage area is an abandoned agricultural area almost totally obscured by vegetation.

4. Area 4 was reported as an unidentified storage area containing 5 possible storage buildings interconnected by canals, 2 distinct lines of foxholes, and numerous scattered foxholes and AW emplacements. The report also suggests this installation may house additional headquarters and command facilities.

A comparison of this area with Mission

and stereoscopic observation of reveals the following: The two distinct lines of foxholes appear to be small circular cleared areas with a shrub-like object projecting up from the center. The alignment, spacing and orientation resemble that of a windbreak. The building pattern, raised foundations and paths, and cultivation pattern are similar to those observed in the other agricultural areas. The numerous scattered holes generally observed in the area appear similar to the scattered holes observed throughout other agricultural areas. Absence of

track activity in the vicinity indicates that these holes are probably not used.

5. Area 5 (See Figure 5) was reported as a probable training area containing a simulated outpost and hamlet, numerous scattered foxholes and several AW emplacements.

A comparison of this area with Mission

Mission

reveals the following: On Mis-

sions ground scarring was ob-

served. On Mission buildings were ob-

served erected on the scarred areas and con-

ected by paths similar to those observed in the

other areas.

Also observed adjacent to Area 5 but not

included in the annotated area on the 13th

report is the outline of a triangular strongpoint

and possibly associated quarters area. Lack of

track activity indicates the area is probably

abandoned. No evidence of training activity

was noted.

6. Areas 6, 7, 8 and 9 (See Figure 6) were

reported as possible storage areas and unidenti-

fied installations. A comparison of these areas

with Mission

reveals the typical,

active agricultural pattern found throughout this

low section of the country.

CONCLUSIONS

The following conclusions have been derived from an examination of generally poor quality photography (with the exception of Mission currently available at NPIC:

- The area is primarily agricultural and is typical of other agricultural areas established throughout this lowland section.
- Trenching and possible weapons emplacements indicate former military

activity in the area; however, growth of vegetation and lack of track activity indicate that the trenches and possible emplacements are currently in disuse.

- The area may be used by para-military or military forces such as the Viet Cong, but such military uses of this area cannot be confirmed from an examination of photography currently available at the NPIC.

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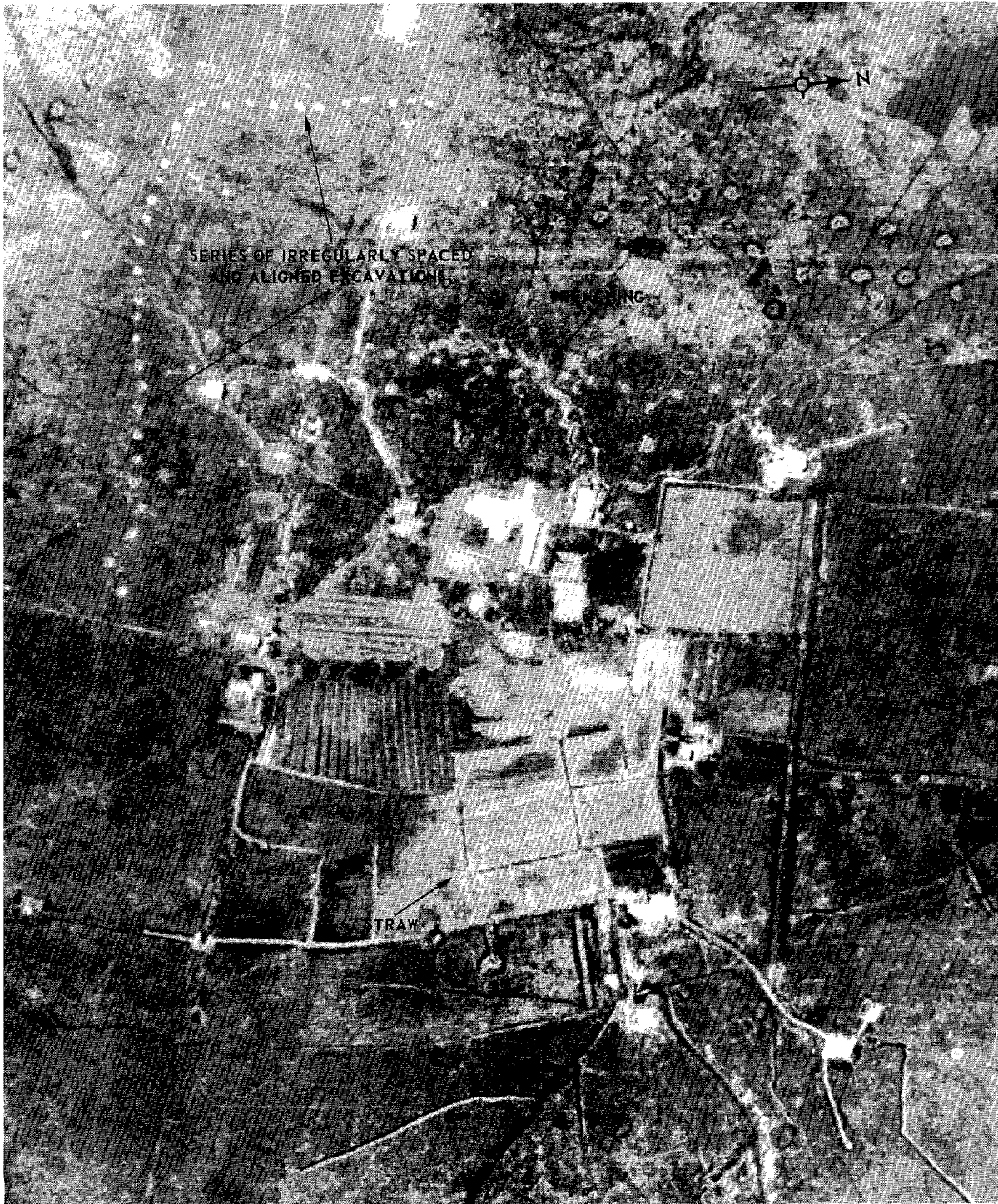


FIGURE 2. FARMING, TRENCHING

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FIGURE 3. PARTIALLY RAZED AGRICULTURAL AREA.

NPIC H-0661 (4/64)

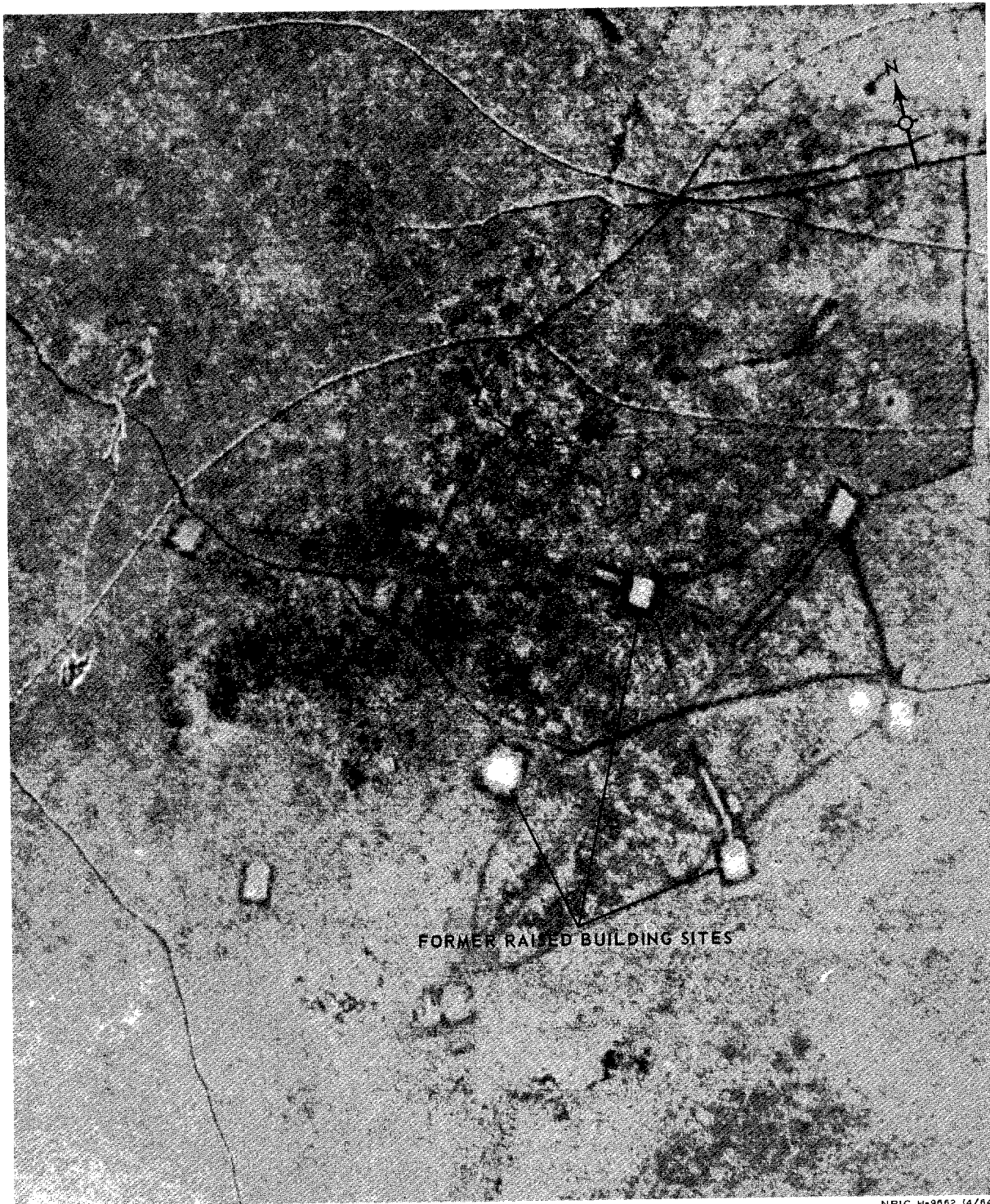


FIGURE 4. ABANDONED AGRICULTURAL AREA.

NPIC H-9562 (4/64)

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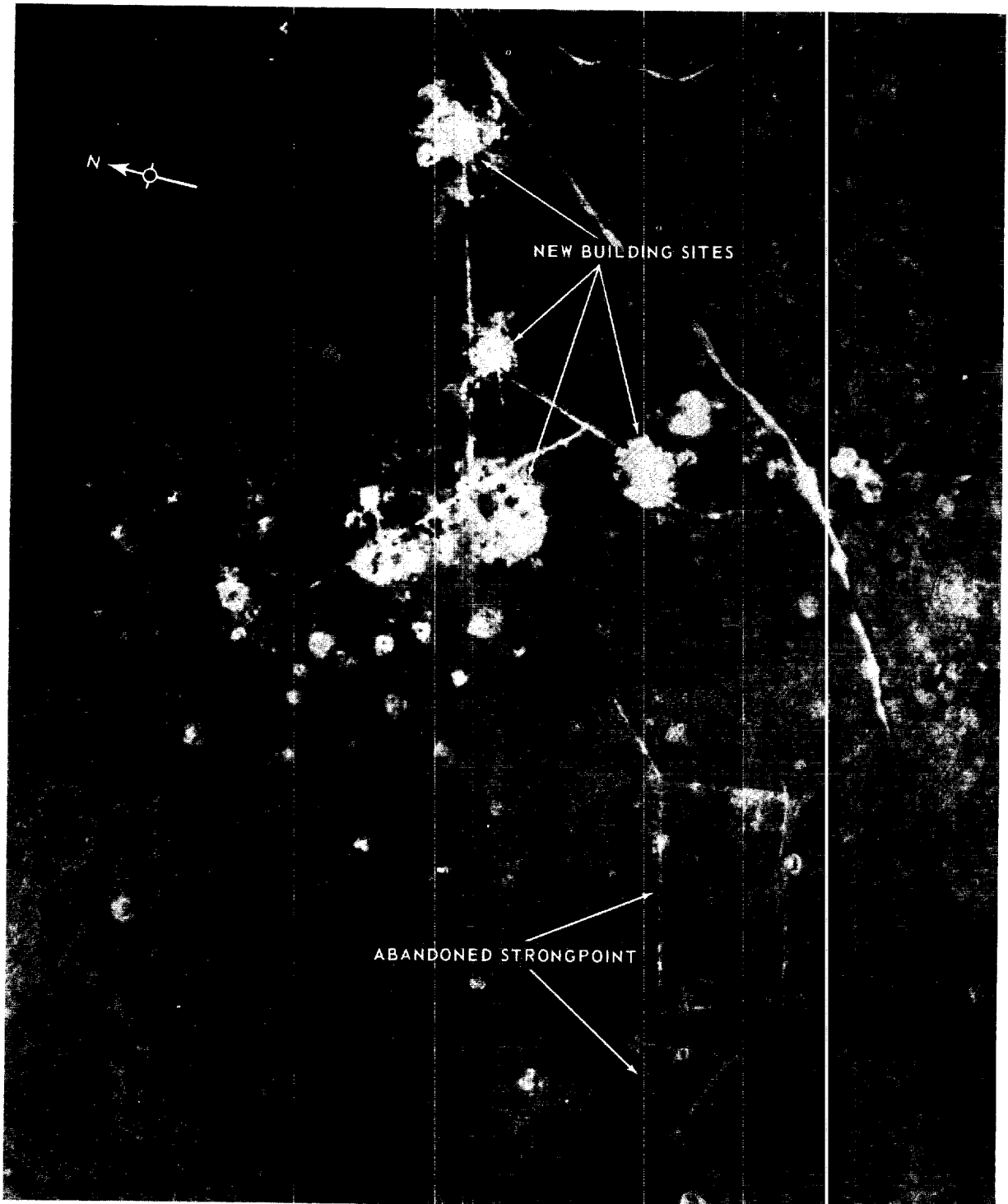
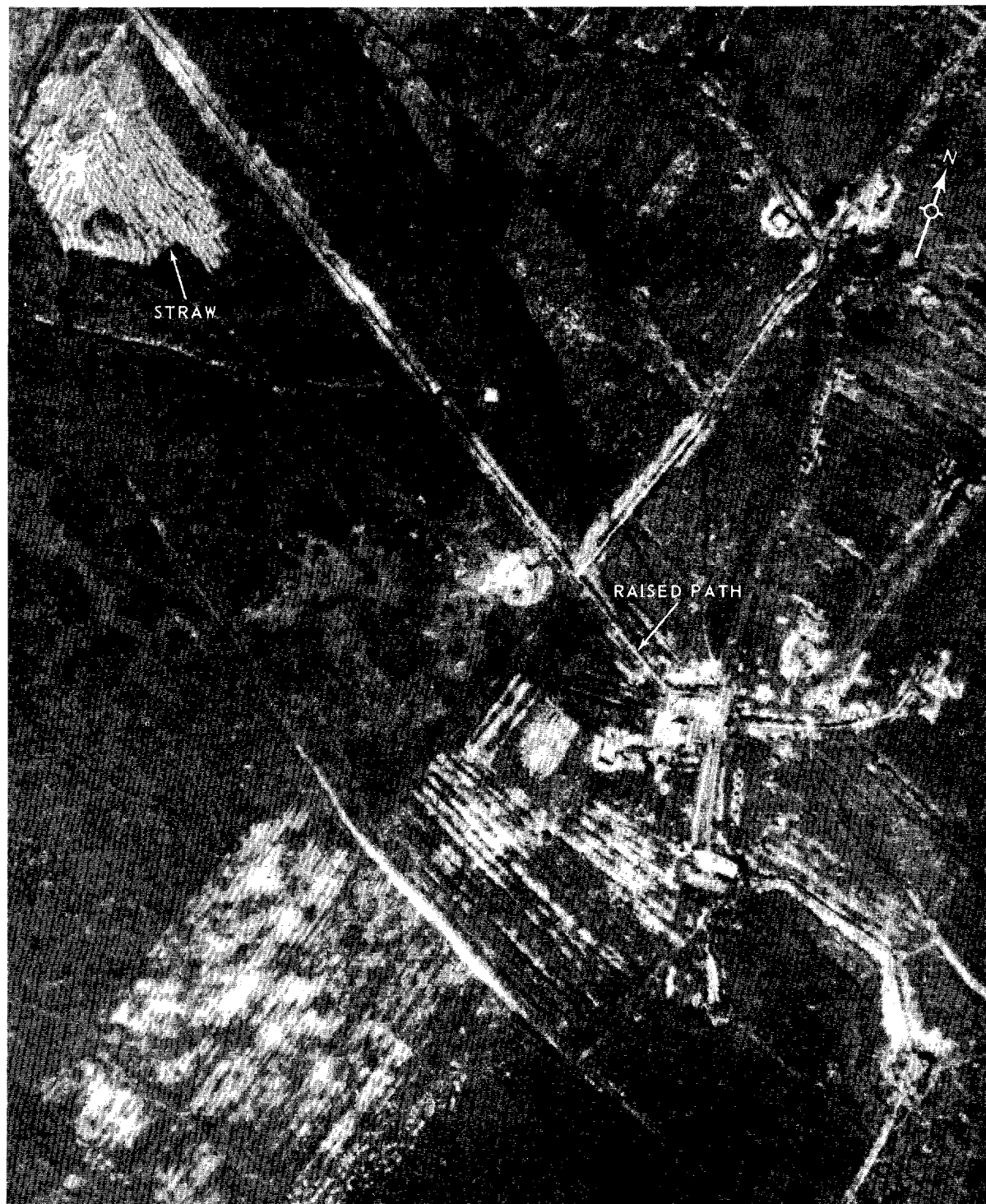


FIGURE 5. ABANDONED STRONGPOINT AND RURAL DWELLINGS UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

NPIC H-9663 (4/64)



NPIC H-9664 (4/64)

FIGURE 6. TYPICAL ACTIVE AGRICULTURAL AREA.

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REFERENCES

PHOTOGRAPHY

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<u>Mission</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Frames</u>	<u>Classification</u>
			SECRET/NO FOREIGN DISSEM
			CONFIDENTIAL
			SECRET/NO FOREIGN DISSEM
			SECRET/NO FOREIGN DISSEM

MAPS

- AMS Series L509, sheet NC 48-7, scale: 1:250,000 (UNCLASSIFIED)
- AMS Series L605, sheets 220E, 220W, 229E, 229W, edition 6-SG1F, scale: 1:100,000 (UNCLASSIFIED)

DOCUMENTS

1. 13th Reconnaissance Technical Squadron, APO 143, San Francisco, California, *Detailed Photo Interpretation Report*, 4 Mar 64 (CONFIDENTIAL)

REQUIREMENT

STATE-64

NPIC PROJECT

N-493/64

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